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| 10/826,090 | 04/16/2004 | Shi-Shien Chen | 24061.128/TSMC2003-1865 | 9242 |

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| EXAMINER | |
|---|---|
| NEWAY, SAMUEL G | |

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**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 10/826,090 | CHEN, SHI-SHIEN | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Samuel G. Neway | 2626 | |

*-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --*

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *16 April 2004*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-20* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-20* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *16 April 2004* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

## DETAILED ACTION

1. This is responsive to the Application filed on 16 April 2004.

2. Claims 1 – 20 are pending and are considered below.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1 – 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ho et al (USPN 6,915,352) in view of Spindel et al (USPN 4,574,362).

Claim 1:

Ho discloses a method for processing data, the method comprising:

processing one or more bytes of a data set as a block wherein the data set comprises Asian language characters ("Each of Big5 and GB code of Chinese consists of two bytes wherein the first byte has a value larger than 127", col. 3, lines 49-51);

comparing the first byte of the one or more bytes with a value ("first check whether the value of each character contained in the sent information is within a default range of a specific internal code", col. 4, lines 10-13); and

converting the character if the first byte is larger than a value ("the received information is converted into one having the type of internal code compatible to the recipient device", col. 4, lines 18-22).

However, Ho does not explicitly disclose inserting an identifier after each byte when converting the character.

In a similar method, Spindel discloses inserting an identifier after each character (byte in this case because character is ASCII or binary) when the character meets a condition (col. 5, line 66 to col. 6, line 6).

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to insert an identifier to the converted character in Ho's method in order to keep track of changes made in the character set.

Claim 2:

Ho and Spindel disclose the method of claim 1, Ho further discloses wherein the value equals to 127 (col. 3, lines 48-51).

Claim 3:

Ho and Spindel disclose the method of claim 1, Spindel further discloses wherein the identifier could be A or B (col.6, lines 1-6) and it would have been obvious to use any other letter, number, or character including 0.

Claim 4:

Ho and Spindel disclose the method of claim 1, Ho further discloses wherein the one or more bytes comprise two bytes (col. 3, lines 49-51).

Claim 5:

Ho and Spindel disclose the method of claim 1, wherein the data set comprises semiconductor manufacturing data (intended use, the data could be generated by any process).

Claim 6:

Ho and Spindel disclose the method of claim 1, Ho further discloses receiving the data set from a first device (Abstract).

Claim 7:

Ho and Spindel disclose the method of claim 1, Ho further discloses transmitting the processed data set to a second device (Abstract).

Claim 8:

Ho and Spindel disclose the method of claim 1, Ho further discloses wherein the Asian language characters comprise Chinese characters (col.6, lines 1-6).

Claims 9 – 10:

Ho and Spindel disclose the method of claim 1, but they do not explicitly disclose wherein the Asian language characters comprise Japanese or Korean characters.

However, it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention that any language is within the scope and spirit of Ho's invention.

Claim 11:

Ho discloses a method for processing data in a semiconductor manufacturing environment (intended use), the method comprising:

processing one or more bytes of a data set as a block wherein the data set comprises Asian language characters ("Each of Big5 and GB code of Chinese consists of two bytes wherein the first byte has a value larger than 127", col. 3, lines 49-51);

comparing the first byte of the one or more bytes with a value ("first check whether the value of each character contained in the sent information is within a default range of a specific internal code", col. 4, lines 10-13); and

converting the character if the first byte is larger than a value ("the received information is converted into one having the type of internal code compatible to the recipient device", col. 4, lines 18-22).

However, Ho does not explicitly disclose deleting an identifier after each byte when converting the character.

In a similar method, Spindel discloses deleting an identifier after each character (byte in this case because character is ASCII or binary) when the character meets a condition (col. 11, 33-38).

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to delete an identifier of the converted character in Ho's method in order to keep track of changes made in the character set.

Ho further discloses and transmitting the processed data set to a first device (Abstract).

Claim 12:

Ho and Spindel disclose the method of claim 11, Ho further discloses receiving the data from a second device (Abstract).

Claim 13:

Ho and Spindel disclose the method of claim 11, Spindel further discloses wherein the identifier could be A or B (col.6, lines 1-6) and it would have been obvious to use any other letter, number, or character including 0.

Claim 14:

Ho and Spindel disclose the method of claim 11, Ho further discloses wherein the value equals to 127 (col. 3, lines 48-51).

Claim 15:

Ho and Spindel disclose the method of claim 11, Ho further discloses wherein the Asian language characters comprise Chinese characters (col.6, lines 1-6).

Claims 16 – 17:

Ho and Spindel disclose the method of claim 11, but they do not explicitly disclose wherein the Asian language characters comprise Japanese or Korean characters.

However, it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention that any language is within the scope and spirit of Ho's invention.

Claim 18:

Ho discloses a method for transmitting semiconductor manufacturing data in a virtual integrated circuits fabrication system (intended use), the method comprising:

processing one or more bytes of a data set as a block wherein the data set comprises Asian language characters ("Each of Big5 and GB code of Chinese consists of two bytes wherein the first byte has a value larger than 127", col. 3, lines 49-51);

comparing the first byte of the one or more bytes with a value ("first check whether the value of each character contained in the sent information is within a default range of a specific internal code", col. 4, lines 10-13, col. 3, lines 49-51); and

converting the character if the first byte is larger than a value ("the received information is converted into one having the type of internal code compatible to the recipient device", col. 4, lines 18-22).

However, Ho does not explicitly disclose inserting an identifier after each byte when converting the character.

In a similar method, Spindel discloses inserting an identifier after each character (byte in this case because character is ASCII or binary) when the character meets a condition (col. 5, line 66 to col. 6, line 6).

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to insert an identifier to the converted character in Ho's method in order to keep track of changes made in the character set. Spindel further discloses wherein the identifier could be A or B (col.6, lines 1-6) and it would have been obvious to use any other letter, number, or character including 0.

comparing the first byte of the one or more bytes with a value ("first check whether the value of each character contained in the sent information is within a default range of a specific internal code", col. 4, lines 10-13); and

converting the character if the first byte is larger than a value ("the received information is converted into one having the type of internal code compatible to the recipient device", col. 4, lines 18-22).

However, Ho does not explicitly disclose deleting an identifier after each byte when converting the character.

Spindel further discloses deleting an identifier after each character (byte in this case because character is ASCII or binary) when the character meets a condition (col. 11, 33-38).

It would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to delete an identifier of the converted character in Ho's method in order to keep track of changes made in the character set. Ho further discloses wherein the value equals to 127 (col. 3, lines 48-51).

Spindel further discloses wherein the identifier could be A or B (col.6, lines 1-6) and it would have been obvious to use any other letter, number, or character including 0.

Claim 19:

Ho and Spindel disclose the method of claim 18, Ho further discloses wherein the Asian language characters comprise Chinese characters (col.6, lines 1-6).

Claim 20:

Ho and Spindel disclose the method of claim 18 wherein the first data set comprises semiconductor manufacturing data transmitted in a virtual integrated circuits fabrication system environment (intended use, the data could be generated by any process).

***Conclusion***

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

a. McCarley et al (USPN 7,013,422) discloses a method of validating a byte sequence where each byte is assigned a state.

b. Lin (USPN 6,620,207) discloses a method for processing a Chinese teletext where Chinese and English characters are determined.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Samuel G. Neway whose telephone number is 571-270-1058. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 8:30AM - 5:30PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David R Hudspeth can be reached on 571-272-7843. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

SN

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